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- Kiekhofer, W. H. An outline of the elements of economics. Third edition. (Madison: Author, University of Wisconsin. 1920. Pp. 142.)
- LABRIOLA, A. Manuale di economia politica. (Naples: A. Morano. 1919. Pp. 432.)
- LEARY, D. B. A group-discussion syllabus of sociology; topics, questions and references for an introductory college course. (Buffalo: University of Buffalo. 1920.)
- Liefman, R. Grundsätze der Volkswirtschaftslehre. Band 2, Grundlagen des Tauschverkehrs. (Stuttgart: Deutsche Verlagsanstalt. 1919. Pp. xvi, 855.)
- McPherson, L. G. The flow of value. (New York: Century. 1919. Pp. 473.)

 To be reviewed.
- MECKLIN, J. M. An introduction to social ethics; the social conscience in a democracy. (New York: Harcourt, Brace & Howe. 1920. Pp. 446. \$2.75.)
- Muhs, K. Begriff und Funktion des Kapitals. (Jena: Fischer. 1919. Pp. 104.)
- Och, J. T. A primer of political economy in catechism form: questions and answers, being a synopsis of lecture on political economy as delivered in the Pontificial College Josephinum. (Columbus, O.: Josephinum Press. Pp. 170. \$1.)
- ODENBREIT, B. Die vergleichende Wirtschaftstheorie bei Karl Marx. (Essen: Baedeker. 1919. Pp. xix, 173.)
- PLENGE. Die Stammformen der vergleichenden Wirtschaftstheorie. (Essen: Baedeker. 1919. Pp. xix, 173.)
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- Tosi, V. Elementi di economia industriale. (Milan: Hoepli. 1920. Pp. xxx, 362.)
- Wygodzinski, W. Einführung in die Volkswirtschaftslehre. (Leipzig: Quelle & Meyer 1920. Pp. 149.)

Economic History and Geography

An Introduction to the Industrial History of England. By Abbott Payson Usher. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1919. Pp. xxii, 529, xxxiv. \$2.50.)

Those who have taught European economic history to undergraduate students know that a serious obstacle to effective work lies in the lack of satisfactory manuals. Some small books giving in outline a survey of the course of development are excellent. The Select Documents of Bland, Brown, and Tawney are admirable material of the kind. The need of a substantial manual, however, has not yet been filled, and the author's contribution will be welcomed with interest and hope by many teachers. It "has been planned and written with a view to the needs of college classes beginning work in economic history." In summary the ground has been covered as follows. The first two hundred pages, roughly, are given to a general introduction on the forms of industrial organization, to chapters on the crafts of antiquity and of medieval France, on the population of England 1086-1700, on the manor, on towns, and on gilds. Two chapters cover the woolen industries and agrarian history in the transition period. The last three hundred pages, roughly, are given to the industrial revolution of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, including chapters on the cotton and iron industries, on the factory system, collective bargaining, social policy, and other topics to be noticed later.

The author brings to his work some qualities to be highly prized. He has a wide range of information, a good measure of critical scholarship, an initiative which has led him on occasion from the beaten track and has resulted in the contribution of some interesting material. His exposition is generally clear. The balance of general statement and of particular fact is in most chapters good. The author is usually a trustworthy guide. I note briefly points on which his statements appear to me to be mistaken or misleading, but I do not attach great importance to the list. Capitalistic control had appeared in Paris, 1300, only "to a slight and uncertain extent," page 72 (cf. Martin St. Leon's analysis of the tax roll of 1292); Roman "field arrangements left traces in both Gaul and Britain," page 121 (cf. Haverfield on Meitzen in English Historical Review, 1908, 23:543, and Tait on Seebohm in the same journal, 1915, 30:100 ff.); the merchants of the Staple were "mostly native Englishmen," page 147, (cf. Jenckes, 12, 33); restriction of the causes of the industrial revolution to "the mechanical achievement; the commercial changes; or physiographic factors," page 252; the iron industry led the field in the United States, 1909, in number of persons employed, page 258; chapter xi passim on the course of commercial policy and its results, and on the doctrine of the period; the inquiry of 1833-34 showed "that a number of parishes had been abandoned to the poor," page 365 (cf. Report, 1834, p. 64; Cholesbury was the sole instance).

The most serious weakness of the work, when it is appraised as a manual for college undergraduates, lies in its plan rather than in its execution. The author appears to me to sin both in commission and in omission. Chapters 2 and 3, on The Rise of the Crafts in Antiquity, and on Crafts and Craft Gilds in Medieval France, are excursions that are relatively unprofitable; chapters 17 and 18 on the railways are written from a technical standpoint, make but slight contributions to industrial history, and omit altogether consideration of roads and canals; a large part of chapter 19 on monopolies is not history but contemporary economics.

On the other hand the author treats slightly or omits altogether subjects which are vitally connected with industrial history. "That commerce is the conditioning factor in industrial development," we read on page 39, "is designed to be the thesis of the present work." Yet, after the medieval period, there is only one chapter, that on the East India Company, in which any considerable attention is given to the relation of commerce to industry; and in this chapter protection from commerce (i.e., from the import of Indian textiles) is presented as the determining factor in the development of the English cotton industry. The extension of the market for manufactured wares is assumed, not described; changes in the character of the import trade are dismissed in a similar summary fashion. I noticed only a bare allusion to the reforms of the customs tariff in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and no reference at all to the industrial effect of the Corn Laws and their repeal.

Another aspect of industrial history, namely its finance, has been neglected in almost equal degree. The author refers in his bibliography to one of Sombart's works, but he has missed the points of Sombart, Schmoller, Weber, and other German scholars who have discussed the development of capitalism, and treats that subject in a formal and narrow way. No attention is paid to the investment processes vital to modern industry, illustrated in banking, the stock company, the stock exchange, etc.; no reference is made, so far as I observed, to the establishment of the system of patents.

It seems ungracious to criticize an author for what he has not attempted. It is improper to do so when his contribution is an investigation addressed to scholars. A manual designed for students must be judged by stricter standards. Credit must be given the author for what he has contributed on many important subjects, and for the notably full treatment of the technical history

of manufactures. He has taken pains to illustrate his subject by maps, figures, and graphs, and has provided a serviceable bibliographical apparatus. I think, however, that few teachers who examine the book will dissent from the conclusion that it would be greatly improved if a large part, almost one third of the whole, were cut out, and if the space saved were used for the consideration of the topics now omitted. Whether, in its present form, it will serve better than other manuals must be determined by each teacher with reference to his particular needs. The question rises in my own case, and I am still in doubt.

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CLIVE DAY.

Empire and Commerce in Africa. A Study in Economic Imperialism. By Leonard Woolf. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1920. Pp. 374.)

This book is a study of economic imperialism by one to whom its aims and methods are alike morally repugnant. It is the author's conviction that the foreign policy of the modern state is shaped by the economic desires of its citizens and that the power of the nation has been placed at the command of the strongest of its commercial classes to be used in the furtherance of their aims and purposes (p. 14). Viewed in the light of the economic development of the nineteenth century which brought forth an ever-growing industrialization of European nations and an ever-increasing dependence of the average citizen upon the smooth working of the industrial machine, it seemed clear to statesmen that the supreme interest of the citizens lay in the acquisition of markets, both for raw materials and for finished products. Practically all of the foreign programs of European nations—the colonial policy, the spheres of influence, the acquisition of exploitable territory from peoples of lower culture—is attributed by the author to this belief of the statesmen. This ideal of imperialism has left its mark upon the weaker nations in all quarters of the globe. "It has converted the whole of Africa and Asia into mere appendages of the European state, and the history of those two continents, the lives men live in Nigeria or Abyssinia, in India and Siam and China, are largely determined by the conviction of Europeans that 'Commerce is the greatest of European political interests'" (p. 10). It is the purpose of the author to prove this contention so far as it concerns Africa and to set forth the results, good and bad, of economic imperialism in that continent.